NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Published by the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council, Newark
November 18, 1957 836 South 12 Street

WHY NON-PARTISAN?

City elections are coming! Their importance is obvious. The Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council must be clear as to its responsibility. We have grown out of the whole neighborhood, and we must continue as an organization with a place for the views of every resident. C an we do this if we get wrapped up in the organization of a particular party or candidate? The answer is obviously, "No!"

While each candidate for public office seeks support from organizations, we are an independent group too large to fit into any pocket. Candidates will come and go, but we are moving toward the future of Clinton Hill. Yet, we need to know how candidates stand on issues that concern us. This can be done by publishing answers to a questionnaire, or sponsoring public forums at which all candidates are invited to speak and respond to questions.

But we must be careful not to get tied to any coatstrings. We must be free to look at the future of the neighborhood, form independent judgments, and pursue policies which grow out of the thinking and desires of every segment of our community. This is the function of the Council. Thus, while leadership in the Council has a special obligation to avoid "conflicts of interest," each of us must avoid "using" the Council for partisan political goals. This can only destroy confidence in the integrity of the Council, and thus destroy the Council.

The words "non-partisan" are among the most important in our Statement of Purposes. Now is the time for us to show what they mean, and that we mean them!

--S.J.H.

MARCH TO UNITY!

It was billed as a Hallowe'en parade and what a parade it was! Eager bunnies, space cadets, charming princesses and vicious tigers assembled early at the forming point. Horses...police cars.... motorcycles...banners! The parade involved 5,000 young ghosts and goblins. It took in branch members, PTAers, recreation personnel from two schools, Church leaders, merchants, financial institutions and many, many neighbors.

Clinton Hill's first Hallowe'en parade was successful beyond anyone's wildest dreams. It was successful not only because of the numbers involved but because it brought about a new spirit that spells out a new neighborhood unity.

We marched east on Clinton Avenue to Bergen Street, the papers said. But our Council members know we marched far beyond any school yard. We marched to a new Clinton Hill tradition. We paraded our wonderful youngsters for all to see and admire. They marched and they laughed in a spirit of fun and mutual respect.

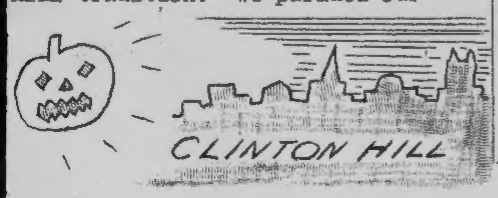
The many who wound up Hallowe'en night after hectic days and weeks of preparation were footsore and weary. But you never saw a more gratified group of neighbors.

The hard-working committee members deserve a large vote of thanks. Reverend Geyer, Bob Godwin, Mr. Wasserman and the heads of various committees did a yeomanlike job.

Our parade may give us a feeling of bigness and importance. Good. But we must not lose sight of our basic aims and the idealism that set us aflame and in pursuit of those aims.

It was in this parade that thousands of our youngsters showed us how to find the common bedrock of neighborhood unity and friendship. That is why, in a spirit of great fun, they reached the end of the line without incident or confusion. Ah! those kids! We would do so well to learn from them.

--T.O'B.



GOOD NEIGHBORS ALL

The businesses and institutions listed below contributed invaluable material support in making the Halloween Parade a smashing success and thrilling experience:

L. Bamberger, Department Store
Channel Lumber Company, 669 South 10th Street
Charms Candy Co., Bloomfield
Fischer Baking Co., 242 Livingston Street
Breyer's Ice Cream Co, Newark Division
Royal Crown Bottling Co., 245 Raymond Blvd.
Coca Cola Bottling Co., Newark Division
Doris Belfiore, 230 Avon Avenue, candy store
Jake Comisky, Vegetables, 553 Bergen Street
E-Z Laundry, 552 Bergen Street
Mary's Flower Shop, 586 Bergen Street
Joe Berkowitz, Grocer, 535 Clinton Avenue
Jung's Pharmacy, 541 Clinton Avenue
Robert Treat Savings and Loan Assn., 530 Clinton Avenue
Clinton Kiddie Shop, 491 Clinton Avenue
M & S Tire Co., 609 Bergen Street
Singer Drugs, Bergen and Avon Avenue
S & M Food Products, 608 Bergen Street
United Grocery Co., 569 Bergen Street
Shell Service Station, Avon Ave. and So. 11th Street
Milton's Groceries, 256 Avon Avenue
Clinton Paint Co., 520 Clinton Avenue
Kay's Sweet Shop, Farley and Avon Avenues
Parrott Cleaners, 379 Avon Avenue
Brown's Cigar Store, 381 Avon Avenue
McCargo's Upholstery, Farley and Avon Avenues
John's Sunoco Station, 624 Bergen Street
Fidelity Union Trust Co., Citizens-Clinton Branch
Bennett's Toys and Stationery, 516 Clinton Avenue
Bargain Isle, Seymour and Clinton Avenues
Levinson's Home Furnishings, 525 Clinton Avenue
Friedenberg's Pharmacy, So. 10th Street and Clinton Avenue
Irv and Rose Luncheonette, Tracey and Clinton Avenues
Clark's 5 & 10 Cent Store, So. 18th Street and Clinton Avenue
Clinton Music Co., 506 Clinton Avenue
David's Tailor Shop, 611 Clinton Avenue
Abbott's Ice Cream Co., Newark Division
Blessed Sacrament Church, Van Ness Pl. and Clinton Avenue
Trinity Methodist Church, Tracey and Clinton Avenues
St. John's Lutheran Church, Avon Avenue and So. 10th Street
St. Andrews Episcopal Church, So. 17th and Clinton Avenue

Judges of Prize Winning Costumes

George Brenn, President Robert Treat Savings and Loan Assn.
Arthur White, Vice-Pres., Fidelity Union Trust Co. (Clinton Branch)
Juanita Lacey, Teacher
Robert Hoover, City Planning Officer
William Rallo, Div. Sales Supt., Royal Crown Bottling Co.

THE WINNERS! BEST, MOST ORIGINAL COSTUMES

Avon Avenue School - Joseph Durois, Pat Dawson, Paul Horowitz, Jean Paul, John Salter, Steven Dworkin
Bergen Street School - Susan Slezzle, George Shawer, Vivian Johnson, Gardiva Webster
Clinton Place Junior High - Clayton Brown, Edith Williams, John Weingarten, Hector Vasulilo
Blessed Sacrament School - Kathleen Howe, Richard Valorie, Veronica Jumper, John Burhaw, Sharon Crowe
Madison Avenue School - Susan Gabriel, Carol Godwin, Carol Cherida, Jeffrey Ruzrah (with apologies for misspellings)

Our Town ~ Your Town

A sterling display of Newark's present and future is currently on view at the Newark Museum. Lasting till March the exhibit shows what the city will look like five and ten years hence - if plans become realities.

Clinton Hill's projected urban renewal project is the subject of a clever street scene, showing the Bergen Street School and West Bigelow Street looking west. At a push of a button the scene is transformed into "garden-like footpaths of the future," according to the Newark News (Nov. 10), which ran a photo of the exhibit.

An excellent suggestion for a weekend or rainy day visit is a family trip to the Newark Museum, Washington Street near Broad Street. Don't delay!

...BLOCK DOINGS

SEYMOUR AVENUE. This branch has succeeded in getting the Department of Public Works to tar the street from Runyon to Clinton Avenue, thus removing a traffic hazard resulting from large holes in the street.

On November 7 the branch was given a report on the Rapkin Survey by Walter Chambers of the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations.

The branch is working to obtain a sign at the bend in the street between Bigelow and Runyon Streets to read, "Sharp Curve."

PESHINE AVENUE. This branch has just completed a successful cleanup campaign. The first prize was given by Sears, Roebuck Company and was awarded to the Albore family. Six other prizes obtained from neighborhood institutions and merchants were also awarded.

The city sent trucks to pick up refuse which the branch urged members to place on the street.

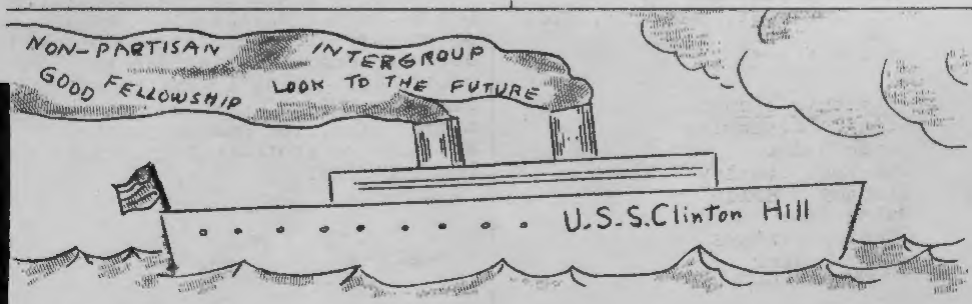
The city has been contacted to inspect the area around an empty lot which is a danger to the street. The owner of the lot will be asked to build a buttress which will prevent mud from overflowing onto the street during rains.

SOUTH 17TH STREET. One family is the "sore spot" on the street. Family situations create problems of children unsupervised and destructive, harrassing neighbors, breaking shrubbery, fences and the firing of BB guns, etc. Four home owners called police who didn't respond because it was a juvenile problem. Mrs. VonBusch and several neighbors contacted the juvenile bureau who have agreed to investigate the situation...

FARLEY AVENUE secured more street lights. Every house between Madison and Avon Avenues has been improved by painting or shrubbery. A street party program for children and adults was initiated. The last meeting featured a film forum and discussion led by Mary Howard of the New Jersey region of the NCJC. The film "High Wall" was shown.

BERGEN STREET. Litter baskets have been obtained and more street lighting has been requested. A rundown house on the street was photographed and the building inspectors were called. Some improvements were made.

Litter disposal in Clinton Hill should be picking up now that the Department of Sanitation has honored a request from CHNC for litter baskets. A dozen of the wire containers have been placed throughout the neighborhood. Tell your friends about them. Let's use them to advantage and keep Clinton Hill clean.



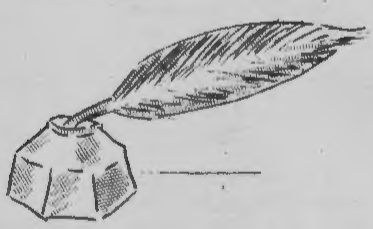
Coming Surveys

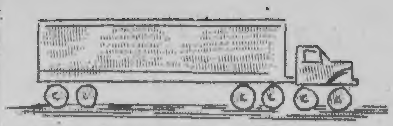
Two surveys, one an intensive study of Newark's "changing neighborhoods" the other an "inventory of population," are about to be launched by the City. The Mayor's Commission on Group Relations has chosen Market Planning Corp. to conduct these studies.

A recent report by Chester Rapkin and associates of the Univ. of Pennsylvania, outlined areas where such further research was needed. Since it was impossible to survey all the areas mentioned by Rapkin, the Commission chose two key fields, population and neighborhoods.

An extensive sampling of residents based on 4,000 interviews will be taken by Market Planning Corp. From the questionnaires should come valuable information relating to changing sections of Newark. CHNC members will be in a better position to understand local attitudes and opinions after the sampling.

To many CHNC members the opinions disclosed will be more important than mere nose counting. We will have the benefit of knowing the thoughts of people in three types of neighborhoods - unchanged, in transition, and completely transformed in recent years. The importance of this was underlined by Benjamin Collier, chairman of the Commission on Group Relations, who said that the two areas of survey were "most closely related to the future stability of neighborhoods in our community."





PARKING PROBLEMS

Many streets in Clinton Hill have been plagued with heavy trucks parking overnight, many of them owned by persons living out of town. Mildred Helms, chairman of the Bergen Street branch, CHNC, suggests that the City Council consider an ordinance limiting parking of commercial vehicles to one hour, save perhaps where deliveries and daily conduct of business are involved. The Block Steering Committee has appointed Mrs. Helms to contact Edward Cyr, Traffic Engineer, to discuss such an ordinance. Peshine and Seymour Avenue branches have conducted vigorous campaigns with Police Dept. assistance to stop such nuisance parking.

It is now four months since meter parking was installed on Clinton Avenue between Jelliff and Farley Avenues. But repeated letters to Mayor Carlin, Mrs. Cooper (councilwoman), and Mr. Cyr have brought no response to pleas that signs limiting parking hours be installed near the meters. Meanwhile, not only is the City losing much needed revenue, but local business people are being hurt by the City's failure to respond. The CHNC will not cease pressing until signs are installed.

Chairman Stan Winters has sent to Mayor Carlin a list of 6 streets where an experimental one-side-of the-street-parking program might begin. This would facilitate mechanical street sweeping by limiting such parking for at least one morning a week. Failure to clean under parked vehicles results in unpleasant odors, clogged sewers, and unsightly streets. One-side parking is proving its worth along Avon Avenue, where it was begun several months ago.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

An informal means of getting items of interest to Clinton Hill residents, to neighbors and friends. Send notes and comments to CHNC, 836 South 12 Street, Newark 8, N.J.

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Staff for this issue:
Stanley Aronowitz
Grace Golat
The Rev. Stanley Hallett
Timothy O'Brien
Ralph Sims
Stanley Winters
Wally Becker
Sarah Hallett

PROTECTION SOUGHT

The CHNC has arranged a meeting with Police Commissioner Sugrue to discuss means of getting more police protection in Clinton Hill. Due to recent daytime incidents of robbery and assault, the Block Steering Committee decided to send a delegation to the commissioner. Some improvement in night patrolling has been noted, but daytime protection is a serious problem.

WELCOME

The efforts of the B.B.C. (Block Building Committee) bore fruit on November 12 when a South 11th Street branch of the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council was formed at a meeting of residents of the street between Avon and Madison Avenues. Temporary members of the leadership team for the new branch are Ruth Edge, Mary Colston, and William King.

The branch decided to ask for a "Yield" sign at Madison and South 11th Street to replace an old "Slow" sign, which has failed to prevent frequent accidents on this busy intersection. Also, the Dept. of Sanitation will be asked to resume regular sweeping of the street, which has been neglected in this respect recently. The consensus of the new branch members was that the street was looking very well, that homes were being excellently maintained, that persons living between Madison and Clinton Avenue should next be invited to join, and that the new branch offered neighbors an opportunity to meet one another and make new friendships.

BE A BLOCK BUILDER!

CHNC members who have friends interested in the aims of the council and desirous of forming a branch on their block may contact the following members of the Block Building Committee: John Hughes, Helen Winters (chairman, BI 2-0825), Frances Brock Davies, Sol Fanshel, Leona Newman, Mary Robinson, Grace Golat, Lee Bailey, and Stanley Aronowitz. Be a good neighbor - help build the neighborhood council!

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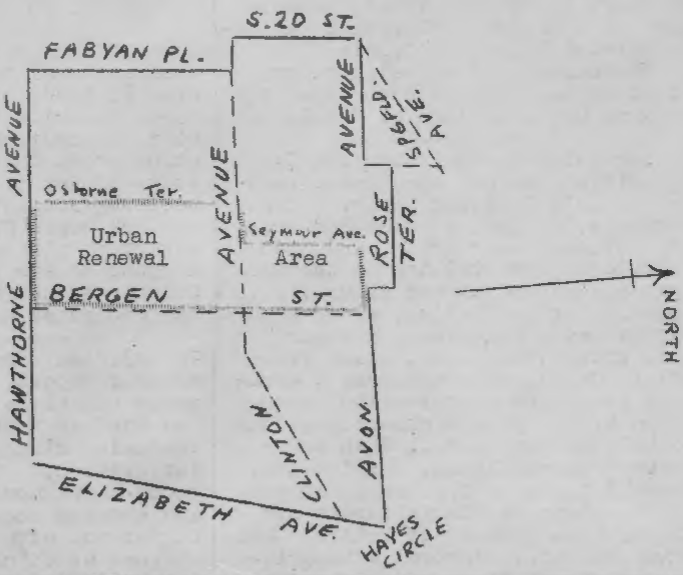
100 city blocks
35,000 popul.
7 schools



Boundaries
CLINTON HILL
NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL

YOUTH ACTIVITIES CONFERENCE. A leadership conference on youth activities and facilities in Clinton Hill will be held on Dec. 2 at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, at 8 pm. Chairman of the panel and discussion will be Jacob Feldman, director of Group Work and Recreation, Council of Social Agencies.

Groups and institutions involved in youth activities will report on their programs. Members of the CHNC Executive Board will be present. The purpose of the conference, sponsored by the CHNC, is to survey existing programs and set priorities on unmet needs. This is an essential first step toward developing a comprehensive recreational program in line with recommendations made at the two CHNC South Side High School Conferences in May of 1956 and 1957.

IT'S ONLY US!

It seems that some Clinton Hill folks are hard to find in the evening. Why? Because their house numbers are tiny, hidden, or just not there. How about a big number? It's only us!

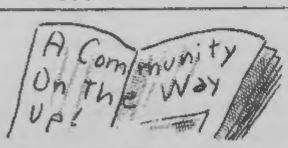
All About People

DID YOU KNOW...? Miss Seafood Princess of 1957 is a Clinton Hiller, Judith Miller of S. 12 St. selected in a contest with 20 other young ladies at Pt. Pleasant Beach, N.J.. An inquiry to Henry Heald, chairman of the Ford Foundation, for aid in expanding recreational facilities in Clinton Hill brought a response that, "We were certainly impressed with the good community organization you have developed... however, the Foundation has not been able to undertake a program of community grants of this kind."

The year's musical windup at CYO in Blessed Sacrament Church will be "Coyotes and Cuties" with a cast of 80, scenario by Tim O'Brien, CHNC recreation committee chairman..... The Rev. Stanley Hallett, CHNC vice chairman, led a 6-session course in "The Role of the Church in Community Planning" at the Second Presbyterian Church. And at the same leadership school the Rev. Carl T. Uehling, pastor St. John's Lutheran chaired a group in "Personal Christian Living."... Miss Sylvia Clark of Peshine Avenue was elected president of the student council at the Rutgers Univ. College of Nursing...

A discussion on "Neighborhood In Transition" before the Greater Newark Women's Division, Amer. Jewish Congress, on Oct. 21 featured Mrs. Lee Bailey, Tim O'Brien, and Stan Winters of CHNC telling of the program and record of the group..... Speaking of Lee Bailey, along with George Davis (chairman, Seymour Ave. branch) and Grace Golat (recorder, CHNC), she attended a workshop in "group conversation" sponsored by the Nutley Human Relations Council on Nov. 1-3... Stan Aronowitz (vice-chairman, Peshine Ave. branch) spoke on U.S. labor history to a seminar on "Christianity and the Job" in October at Trinity Methodist Church... Several enterprising Clinton Hillers have formed a philosophical discussion group and plan regular meetings... (cont'd)

...John P. Hudak of S. 13 Street, new director of mass communication for the Natl. Conference of Christians and Jews, was featured as a "Personality in the News" on Nov. 3 in the Newark News... The Orpheus Chamber Singers (Helen Winters, alto) gave a radio concert over WNYC in October and have another one slated for Dec. 22 at 6:30 pm, same station... The Kirby Russell house at 62 Shanley is resplendent with new paint inside and out... Magda Finn of S. 12 St. is finding that going back to school and keeping a family going are sizeable tasks but feasible after all...



NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR CLINTON HILL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL IN PUBLICATIONS

The CHNC has been mentioned in several national magazines. The October 21 issue of Time tells of our March bus ride to Philadelphia to visit recreational and rehabilitation areas there. The September issue of Forum, architectural and building journal, in an article "Newark Wakes Up," devotes a full paragraph to the CHNC, including a photo of the Orphanage site on Clinton Avenue and a diagram of the projected urban renewal plan.

In addition, the Nov. 1 U.S.News & World Report, in a story on group relations in Newark, cites the CHNC as "perhaps the most encouraging single... experiment in integration." One accompanying photo shows homes on S. 10 Street and another shows CHNC leaders in conference with Mayor Carlin over stepped up enforcement of zoning and building codes (incorrectly mentioned, by the way, in the caption under the photo).

Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council
836 South 12 Street
Newark 8, N. J.

NEWARK, New Jersey